

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 675

By Sands

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ernest Thacker, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of state service, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Thacker, Jr. is one such estimable person who has served with probity for thirty-six years as an employee of the State of Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thacker will end his meritorious career on January 31, 2002, at the rank of Special-Agent-In-Charge over the Nashville District to answer the call of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Thacker, Jr. was born on August 27, 1941, in Hardin County, Tennessee, to the late Ernest and Dorothy Qualls Thacker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thacker attended school in Hardin County and graduated in May 1959, from Frank Hughes High School in Clifton, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Thacker, Jr. began his career with the TABC on October 15, 1965, in the Greeneville office under the Executive Director Scott Alden and Chief Law Enforcement Officer Herman Bomar, supervised by Avery Mills and partnered with Sisie B. Ray, TABC

Special Agent, where they joined forces with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms agents, Harold Pike, Red Beeler, Bid Lindsay, Steve Whitlow, and Charlie Pike, working three years in overt and covert investigations involving moonshine and tax-paid liquor before transferring to the Columbia office; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication in 1985, Mr. Thacker has worked with other law enforcement personnel in the eradication of illegal marijuana; and

WHEREAS, displaying valuable leadership ability, he served as the team leader for the West Team for the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thacker possesses abundant law enforcement knowledge through informal education on the "streets" and the more formal education of many law enforcement schools, including those provided by U.S. Department of Justice agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, along with numerous state and local law enforcement schools and programs; and

WHEREAS, an active and important member of his church, First Baptist Church Spring Hill, Ernest Thacker, Jr. has served in leadership roles, including as Deacon; and

WHEREAS, a vital and concerned member of his community and his profession, Mr. Thacker readily shares his wisdom and insight gained from his professional experience as a TABC agent and supervisor, by speaking tirelessly to numerous civic, church, colleges and local school groups; and

WHEREAS, he enjoys the love and companionship of his wife, Jeane Kelly, from Waynesboro, Tennessee, to whom he will be married forty years on June 2, 2002, and a daughter, Karissa, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a new addition to his home, Josie, his pet Yorkshire Terrier; and

WHEREAS, Karissa Thacker is a 1983 graduate of Spring Hill High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Columbia State Community College, a Master's Degree from Austin Peay University in Clarksville, Tennessee, and a Ph.D. from the University of

Cincinnati. Karissa is employed as an Industrial Psychologist with General Mills in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Thacker, Jr. is a loving brother to Sue Cagle and Sherry Byrd of Savannah, Tennessee, and Judy Ward of Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Thacker, Jr. exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Thacker has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their greatest potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers and superiors alike; and

WHEREAS, being a man of integrity and a consummate professional, Ernest Thacker has enjoyed the approbation of public figures including United States Senator Fred Thompson and State of Tennessee Representative Bobby Sands; and

WHEREAS, by taking a well-deserved retirement, Mr. Thacker will now have the freedom and time to pursue his cherished pastimes of farming and fishing; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career, he has been a great asset to this state and its populace, and his departure from the workforce leaves a void that will not be easily filled; now; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we thank Ernest Thacker, Jr. for his more than three decades of honorable service to the State of Tennessee and extend our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.